

Message Text

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42

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-11 IGA-02 L-03 AGR-20 COME-00

IO-14 PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 DRC-01 SS-20 NSC-10 H-03

SWF-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 /187 W

----- 028481

P 261220Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 570

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, CE

SUBJ: PL 480: REMAINING 10,000 METRIC TONS OF WHEAT FLOUR FOR
SRI LANKA

REF STATE 9227, COLOMBO 340 AND 495

1. NOW THAT GSL HAS AGREED TO AMENDMENT INCREASING AMOUNT OF
PL 480 LOAN FROM \$4.9 MILLION TO \$5.9 MILLION, WE BELIEVE
STRONGLY THAT IT IS INCUMBENT ON USG TO ISSUE SOONEST PUR-
CHASE AUTHORIZATION FOR REMAINING 10,000 MT OF WHEAT FLOUR.

2. FOOD SITUATION IN SRI LANKA CONTINUES PRECARIOUS, WITH
EVERY INDICATION THAT LAST QUARTER THIS FISCAL YEAR WILL
WITNESS CRITICAL FOOD SHORTAGES. FINANCE MINISTER'S EXPRESS-
ION OF CONCERN TO AMB RE "TEMPORARY DISCONTINUATION OF PL 480"
(COLOMBO 340) IS INDICATIVE OF HIGH-LEVEL DISQUIET ON FOOD
SUPPLIES FOR SRI LANKA AND ON US HELP IN MEETING PROBLEM.

3. FURTHER, IN VIEW OF SIZABLE SHORTFALL IN U.S. AID FROM
AMOUNT PLEDGED AT LAST YEAR'S AID GROUP MEETING, IT IS HIGHLY
DESIRABLE THAT WE AT LEAST FULFILL TERMS THIS SALES AGREE-
MENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ARRIVAL RELATIVELY SMALL BALANCE
WHEAT FLOUR DURING FINAL QUARTER THIS FISCAL YEAR WOULD GO FAR
TO MEET POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS SET FORTH ABOVE.

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4. WE THEREFORE URGE THAT PURCHASE AND SHIPMENT REMAINING
10,000 MT WHEAT FLOUR BE ACCOMPLISHED IN TIHW TO ASSURE ARRIVAL
WELL BEFORE JUNE 30.

5. WE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE BEING INFORMED BY 1 MARCH
RE WHEN PURCHASE AUTHORIZATION WILL BE ISSUED.
VAN HOLEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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